

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Their bias is clear when you consider their earlier decision to stop Nightline from listing names of fallen servicepeople.

We do not want our media to become a tool for political games. In a sense favoring the party in charge is eerily like the Soviet style freedom of the press. This goes far beyond this election. Our democracy is at stake. If this election is not seen as fair the repercussions will be long lasting and I fear devastating

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.